(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Technical assistance for investigation, prevention and control of Dengue outbreak in different parts of country is provided to the States through Dte. of National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP), Delhi and National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi. Dte. of NAMP and NICD provide laboratory diagnostic support for confirmatory etiological diagnosis. They also organize training programmes on prevention and control of dengue fever for State and district level health functionaries.

The States utilize the commodities supplied under NAMP for containment measures against Dengue, if required.

(c) to (e) Health Education Campaign including Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities are carried out by the concerned health departments in the States for educating masses on the symptoms of dengue and its prevention and control.

Incidents of negligence towards patients in AIIMS

†491. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of negligence towards the patients in All India Institute of Medical Sciences that have come to light during the last one year;

(b) the names of persons held responsible for the same; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) During the last one year, six complaints of alleged negligence of doctors were registered in the Institute. The complaints are being enquired into by the established procedures. So far, no evidence of negligence by the doctors or the nurses of the Institute has come up. The Institute follows the laid down procedures to attend all the cases and initiate measures from time to time for maintenance of patient care services in the best possible way so that the patients do not face any difficulty.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) There are 24 complaint boxes fixed in different areas of hospital (OPD and inpatient areas) to enable the public to register any complaint of doctors and hospital administration. In order to have an objective assessment/inquiry of the complaints of negligence on the part of doctors and staff during the management of the patients at AIIMS, all the original medical records of the relevant complaints of negligence on the part of doctors are preserved/kept in safe custody for scrutiny and verification of the inquiry committee, wherever necessary. AIIMS hospital has got a Casualty Death Review Committee under the Chairmanship of a senior Faculty member. The Committee reviews all the death cases which occur in the casuality and inquire into the circumstances for such deaths which could be attributed to AIIMS hospital.

Diploma in Homoeopathic Pharmacy

492. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government wants to help Homoeopathy Pharmacists to acquire knowledge to identify, prepare, standardize, store and dispense medicines and also equip them with various laws and regulations pertaining to the system; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in considering to start Diploma in Homoeopathic Pharmacy and to establish Homoeopathic Pharmacy Council for registration and institutions for education for Homoeopathic Pharmacists in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the growing demand of Homoeopathic Pharmacy education in the country and the need to regulate such education. Steps have already been taken to set up a regulatory mechanism for pharmacy education in Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.

Post of DCGI

493. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post of DCGI is still on *ad hoc* basis; and

(b) if so, by when Government would appoint a regular person for this important post?